

Appln No. 10/799,143  
Amdt date July 24, 2006  
Reply to Office action of February 23, 2006

**Amendments to the Abstract**

A replacement Abstract is attached herewith following page 16 of this amendment.

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~An anchoring element for use in spinal or bone surgery is described.~~ A shaft [(1)] for anchoring in a vertebra or bone section is connected to a receiving part [(22)] which serves to connect to a rod [(100)] having a pre-determined diameter (D). The receiving part [(22)] provides a U-shaped recess [(26)], forming a channel for the reception of the rod, and two ~~legs~~ (27, 28). The legs are free on[.] their ~~ends~~ and have a thread (30, 31) that cooperates with a securing element to fix the rod in the receiving part. When inserted ~~into~~ to the receiving part, the rod surface facing ~~an~~ the end surface [(29)] is at a[.] pre-determined distance[.,] A[.] in ~~an~~ axial direction from the end surface [(29)]. The thread (30, 31) of the legs extends from the end surface a distance that is smaller than or equal to ~~the~~ [a] pre-determined distance (A). Also, an undercut (33, 34) is provided adjacent to the thread whose edge farthest away from the thread is located at a distance (B) from the end surface. Distance (B) is larger than the pre-determined distance (A). ~~The anchoring element is cheap to manufacture and has a reduced overall height as compared to the known anchoring elements. Methods of using the anchoring element also are described.~~

(Fig. 3)